



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

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FEDERAL JUDGE REJECTS HARRELSON'S PLEA FOR NEW TRIAL

(SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS) United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced today that United States District Judge Orlando Garcia denied **CHARLES V. HARRELSON's** request to set aside his conviction for the 1979 murder of United States District Judge John H. Wood, Jr.

In his 30-page opinion—filed this morning—Judge Garcia described Harrelson's allegations of prosecutorial misconduct and ineffective assistance of council as “incredible,” “conclusory” and “untenable.” Judge Garcia also found that the Government had, “presented an abundance of lawfully admitted direct and circumstantial evidence inextricably linking Harrelson to Judge Wood's murder.” Additionally the Judge found that, “Harrelson's alibi defense toppled like a house of cards underneath the weight of the Government's overwhelming evidence of his guilt.”

Harrelson remains in federal custody serving his two consecutive life sentences. In December 1982, a federal jury convicted Harrelson on Conspiracy to commit murder, murder and conspiracy to obstruct Justice.

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